

Deer Park Incident Rapid Shoreline Assessment Surveys

21 March 2019

Objective: Assess and document the extent of release-related fire suppression materials or product potentially present on surface water and shorelines of Houston Ship Channel and adjacent bayous. Provide protection and cleanup recommendations and priorities to Operations Section as may be necessary.

Approach:

- Rapid shoreline assessment surveys will be performed as continuous, linear along-shore surveys due to access limitations imposed by shoreline conditions and access considerations. Observations will be made from both banks to the extent feasible based on access (see Figure 1), and shall include the Resources at Risk identified on the ICS 232 (see Figure 2) Surveys will be conducted by boat and will include one ITC, one state and one or more Federal representatives.
- The muster point will be at River Terrace Park in Channel View (boat contact OMI 409 299 0472). Observations will be made along all accessible shorelines. Observations of foam, sheen, soot, or other incident related materials will be recorded with GPS for mapping.
- Given the nature of the material released, the presence/absence and relative amount of residual product present will be assessed based on visual observation of foam and/or sheen. Observations will be recorded on standardized data sheets (attached).
- At each location, actionable observations will be noted on data sheets and called into the Environmental Unit Lead (Helen Dubach 504-616-2427) Observed foam/sheen will be characterized based on color and surface distribution (% cover). Additionally, the approximate thickness, size and extent of the observed material will be noted.
- If any distressed wildlife is observed, it will be documented and called into the Environmental Unit Lead (Helen Dubach 504-616-2427)
- Maps depicting results of shoreline surveys will be produced with TRG before teams depart the site each evening.
- The need to transition to more formal SCAT surveys will be determined following completion of rapid assessment surveys based on findings. In such an event, a revised plan will be developed to guide those surveys.

- Representatives conducting the rapid shoreline assessment surveys will work with the Operations and Planning Sections to develop appropriate shoreline treatment recommendations should actionable observations be noted.

Schedule:

- Rapid Shoreline Assessment surveys will begin 22 March 2019. Two (2) teams will be deployed initially. Teams will work until the area to be surveyed is complete (two days anticipated).

Safety Considerations:

- Safety is the most important consideration when implementing this plan. All field team members will read the incident-specific site safety plan and receive a daily safety briefing before going into the field. A daily tailgate safety meeting must be held prior to any field work and a written record of the daily tailgate safety meeting, including signatures of all personnel present, will be maintained.
- Field team members will receive a boat safety briefing by the boat operator prior to leaving the launch area. When on the water, field team members will wear personal floatation devices at all times. Good judgment must be used, particularly when considering fieldwork during inclement weather and/or in the vicinity of other marine traffic particularly heavy shipping.
- USCG VTS (Vessel Transport Services) shall be contacted prior to each vessel-based survey to check in and share the proposed survey route and identify any vessel-related hazards or no-go zones.
- Each team will have one Benzene meter/alarm. If alarms sound teams will evacuate upwind and contact Jeff Wakefield at 302 388 9173 for additional instructions.



Figure 1. Proposed Rapid Shoreline Assessment Survey Locations



Figure 2: ICS 232 Resources at Risk map (as of 03/21/2019)